

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 855

By Beavers

A RESOLUTION to recognize the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the General Robert Hatton Monument.

WHEREAS, on May 20, 1912, a monument was unveiled on the Lebanon Square honoring the memory of General Robert Hopkins Hatton, a lawyer, politician, United States Congressman, and Confederate soldier; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Cumberland University, Robert Hatton studied law at the Cumberland School of Law and established a successful practice in Lebanon upon passing the bar exam in 1850; and

WHEREAS, he was elected to the Thirty-sixth Congress in 1858 as an Opposition party candidate, where he served as Chairman of the Committee on Expenditures in the Department of the Navy; and

WHEREAS, at the onset of the Civil War, Robert Hatton established a Confederate military unit, the Lebanon Blues, which became a part of the 7th Tennessee; Mr. Hatton was soon elected as Colonel of the regiment, which was sent to western Virginia in July 1861; and

WHEREAS, during the Peninsula Campaign to protect the Confederate capital in 1862, Robert Hatton served with distinction and, that May, he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General of the 4th Brigade, 1st Division, Army of Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, eight days after his promotion, General Hatton was shot in the head and killed while leading his Tennessee Brigade at the Battle of Fair Oaks; and

WHEREAS, his body was returned to Tennessee for burial but, because Middle Tennessee was occupied by Federal troops, he was temporarily buried in Knoxville; on March 23, 1866, he was reburied in Lebanon's Cedar Grove Cemetery, and the statue of him was erected in Lebanon's town square in 1912; and

WHEREAS, on May 12, 2012, the monument and park are being re-dedicated by the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Sons of Confederate Veterans in memory of Confederate Veterans of Wilson County and all other true Southern Soldiers of 1861-1865; and

WHEREAS, the celebration, which will take place on the Lebanon Square, will feature re-enactors in period attire, live period music by the Brass Band of Nashville, and dignitaries and keynote speakers from the United Daughters of the Confederacy, along with the unveiling of a bronze plaque commemorating the 100th anniversary; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby recognize the 100th anniversary of the unveiling of the General Robert Hatton Monument on the Lebanon Square, remembering the courage and sacrifices of this valiant Confederate soldier and estimable Tennessean.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.